

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 6, line 15, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- In order to solve the aforesaid problems, the prior art includes an improved saw blade which is capable of withstanding the forces transmitted when the workpiece is cut by the saw blade, is shown in Figs. 3 and 4. The saw blade of Fig. 3 has ribbed portions formed on the shank of the saw blade. The ribbed portions are radially formed from the vicinity of the center of the shank to the outer circumference of the shank in the shape of waves. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 11, line 9, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- Fig. 7 is a fragmented side view showing various dimensions of a sample for a tensile test. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 13, line 5, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- Wave-shaped portions 110 are formed on the shank 101 of the saw blade 100 according to the present invention. The wave-shaped portions 110 are formed over a prescribed portion s of the radius of the shank 101, and are spaced a prescribed distance from each other and alternately arranged on the front and rear surfaces of the shank 101. The aforesaid prescribed portion s of the radius of the shank 101 is spaced at a distance from the center of the insertion hole 109. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 13, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- The As seen in Fig. 6, the height 1 of each of the front prominences 116 or the rear prominences of the wave-shaped portions 110 of the shank 101, as measured from a radially extending central axis, is preferably less than the height of the front or rear prominence of each of cutting tips 104, which is required to prevent any friction between the shank 101 and the work surface of the workpiece in the course of cutting the workpiece. --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 18, line 21, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- The tensile test was carried out with a sample having dimensions as shown in Fig. 7. The specific dimensions (mm) of the sample are as follows: --

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 19, line 6, with the following rewritten paragraph:

-- Furthermore, the cutting force induced shaking of the sample generated when the sample was actually cut was verified through the experiments. The process of impact vibration experiments was as follows: The impact vibration experiments were carried out using a table saw equipped with a Bosch angle grinder having specifications of 5000 RPM and 2200 W, which is widely used. The impact was instantaneously applied to a granite sample having a thickness of 20 mm using a saw blade whose outer diameter was 350 mm. At this time, the feed speed was 1.5 to 2.0 m/min. After the instantaneous impact was applied to the granite sample, the saw blade was separated from the granite sample to measure the vibration width of the saw blade using a transparent scale. The result of measurement of the vibration width (mm) of the saw blade ~~was~~is given in Table 1. --